

In the Claims:

Claims 1-10: cancelled

11. (Withdrawn) The cutting tool according to claim 1, wherein the cutting edges are hardened.

12. (Withdrawn) The cutting tool according to claim 1, wherein the cutting structure is metal.

13. (Withdrawn) The cutting tool according to claim 10, wherein the metal is steel.

14. (Withdrawn) A method for cutting belts which comprises utilizing the cutting tool of claim 1.

Claim 15 (new): A cutting tool for belts comprising:

At least three cutting edges, wherein at least two of the three cutting edges are adjacent and share a common endpoint, and

a zigzag cutting structure formed of a plurality of cutting plates, said cutting plates each having a front side and a back side and an approximately rectangular cross-section

wherein one of the at least three cutting edges extends diagonally between the front and back sides of a respective cutting plate.

Claim 16 (new): The cutting tool according to claim 15 wherein each cutting edge is formed on one cutting plate.

Claim 17 (new): The cutting tool according to claim 15, wherein the cutting edges are embodied as cross-cutters.

Claim 18 (new): The cutting tool of claim 15, wherein each cutting edge is formed by an intersection of two asymmetrical cutting edge surfaces.

Claim 19 (new): The cutting tool according to claim 18, wherein the cutting edge surfaces formed on respective sides of a respective cutting edge of a first and second cutting plate are arranged symmetrically.

Claim 20 (new): The cutting tool according to claim 15, wherein at least one of the cutting plates or the cutting edges are arranged symmetrical to one another.

Claim 21 (new): The cutting tool according to claim 20, wherein at least one of the cutting plates or the cutting edges are arranged mirror symmetrical to one another.

Claim 22 (new): The cutting tool according to claim 15, wherein the cutting structure is formed by two types of cutting plates.

Claim 23 (new): The cutting tool according to claim 15, wherein the cutting plate is arranged mirror symmetrical to the adjacent cutting plate.